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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Poland/East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Naval Vessels in the Baltic Sea 2. Vessels Observed in Swinoujscie and Sassnitz	DATE DISTR.	1 November 1956 25X1
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Two reports, one describing vessels observed in the Baltic Sea [redacted] the second vessels observed at Swinoujscie (Swinemünde) and Sassnitz [redacted]

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	X	AEC	X
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Swinemünde [redacted] at 1500A hours [redacted] at 0500A hours

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1. 2 Russian naval vessels were observed by the destroyer quay; [redacted] was observed. Both ships had a dome-like object on top of the bridge.

2. 5 MTB's ashore were observed in the entrance south of Eichstaden. There were men who were painting them. [redacted]

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Sassnitz [redacted] at 2000A hours [redacted] at 0400A hours

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3. 25-30 MTB's were observed. Russian flags; the boats were armed with twin 40 mm, vertical, and operated by one person. [redacted] several who were drilling. 2 torpedo tubes on the deck: [redacted]

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4. 7-8 Russian naval vessels, [redacted] Strongly flaring bows with very strong sheer. Flush deck. [redacted] 1 stack leaning aft. 1 gun 70 mm on both fore and quarter-deck. Length about 60-65 metres.

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5. 10-12 East German naval vessels, [redacted] [redacted] described them as minesweepers. A few of them had aluminum-painted stacks. All of them were alike. No details.

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6. 35-40 East German armed motor boats, [redacted] The boats were about 25-30 metres long. Light ordnance on fore deck and quarter-deck.

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1. [] at 2055A hours [] and one cruiser were observed in the position 57°40'N, 20°49'E.
- a. Movements. The ships sailed line ahead with a distance of 1 nautical mile, the destroyer first. Course, north, speed, 18 knots.
- b. Data. Destroyer: Armament: AB + XV (perhaps A+X+ A/L).
[]
- Cruiser: KIROV. []
2. [] at 1500A hours a minesweeper was observed in the position 55°42'N, 18°03'E.
- a. Movements. First the ship remained the same place. Then at 1545A hours it went on course 090, speed 15-16 knots.
- b. Data. T 700-class, no armament on the fore deck.

COMMENTS

The destroyer called 16 (18?) is assumed to be of the TALLIN-class since this type frequently has operated together with KIROV during this period.

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the following vessels were observed:

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1. Naval Vessels

- a. 2 escort vessels (?). Course: eastwards. Position: 56°44'N, 20°54'E. Time: 0645 hours. -- At 0656A hours, course: NE. Size: Gunner class.
- b. 0700A hours. Artillery shooting was heard, probably from east. Own position: 56°41'N, 20°38'E.
- c. 0710A hours. Small minesweeper or tender. Position: 56°44'N, 20°54'E. 25X1
- d. 0714A hours. Minesweeper of the T-700 class. Course: NW. Position: 56°30'N, 20°52'E. Altered course to NE at 0730A.
- e. 0740A hours. Destroyer of the SILNEJ-class. Course: SW. Position: 56°34'N, 20°53'E. Escorted by a fast vessel (MTB?).
- f. 0741A hours. Submarine. Position: 56°31'N, 20°53'E.
0800A hours. Submarine, no. 59, probably of the W-class without guns. Carried blue flag with yellow field in which there was a red star. Position at 0800A hours: 56°31'N, 20°53'E. Estimated speed: 14 knots. Disappeared at 0830A.
- g. 0750A hours. Submarine. Same class as the one mentioned in para 1.f. Course: 255. Speed: 10 knots. Dived at 0829A hours. Position: 56°32'N, 20°34'E.

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- h. 0807A hours. Submarine. Position: 56°32'N, 20°26'E. Course: 285. Disappeared at 0858A hours. No description.
- i. 0745A hours. 3 escort vessels of the KRONSTADT-class anchored at position 56°38'N, 20°30'E until 0840A hours. Equipment: Buoys, possibly paravane tackle abaft. Hull: Painted gray, without port-holes. The vessels' [] had radar in the mast. All had search lights on the platform on the mast and VHF aerial. [] 1700 metres distance: Angle distance (?) to top of mast 30'2, the same to the upper edge of the foremost gun turret 9'3. [] 2 sets of mine-laying tracks on the quarter deck.
- j. 0805A hours. [] At 0815A hours threw 3 white cones of light. 0839A hours. A similar plane observed. Position: 56°40'N, 20°02'E. Description of planes: Twin-engine, propeller-driven, sea-gull-winged (?) sea-planes with double egg-shaped tail-fins. The tail-plane horizontal, resembled PBM. Speed: 250-300?. The planes observed for the last time at 1032A hours.
- k. 0907A hours. Small submarine. Position: 56°28'N, 20°35'E. Course: 268. The submarine resembled the MV-class, but had a more flaring bow and no gun.

Para a to k.: It was not possible [] to get an impression of whether the units observed were part of some kind of maneuver.

- l. 1607A hours. 2 Russian destroyers. Position: 55°09'N, 19°39'E. Course: N. Speed: 28 knots. Description: (was difficult to make): Looked like the TALLIN-class. Armament: Apparently A and X. The distance between the aftermost mast and the aftermost stack was bigger and used for the placement of a smaller mast or something similar.
- m. 0820A hours. 4 naval vessels. Course: Varied. Position: 54°33'N, 14°23'E. Description: 4 minesweepers of the T-43 class.

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2. a. Tugs, fishing vessels, and a few trawlers observed; no comments.
- b. 1412A hours. A buoy vessel. Position: 55°16'N, 20°25'E. On the quarter-deck of the ship there was a large green wreck-marking buoy. Course: 045. Speed: 13 knots. Made calls consisting of 7 x A; [redacted]

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COMMENTS

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[redacted] has only spent very little time on describing the vessels observed for which reason several of these cannot be identified. [redacted] ability to make typological classifications of naval vessels is considered quite good. However, in this connection it should be pointed out that the destroyer mentioned in para 1.e. probably was not a SILNIJ-destroyer and that it is very likely that the destroyer mentioned in para 1.1. according to the description has been KOTLIN and not TALLIN.

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However, attention should be called to the fact that a destroyer of the TALLIN-class called at Swinemünde on 4 July and as such has been present in this part of the waters during this period.

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1. a. [redacted] at 1100 hours [redacted] a mine-sweeper and 2 of the large type minesweepers in Putziger Wiek.
- b. The minesweeper did a few miles on NW course, threw a buoy which developed heavy smoke, turned around, and sailed back in its own wake. Then it turned around again, sailed the same distance out, and threw another smoke bomb at the same place. This was repeated 4-5 times.
- c. Some distance away 2 of the large type landing crafts were located, not moving. Apparently they had nothing to do with the maneuvers.
- d. The smoke from the smoke bombs drifted south-eastwards.
2. a. At the same time [redacted] four minesweepers east of the Gdansk-Hela navigation route. They sailed westwards line ahead. A tug, towing two targets, also came.
- b. On the same day between 0800 and 0900 o'clock [redacted] thunder of guns - 4 or 5 volleys - from the Danziger Bay. [redacted] it was the mine-sweepers that had fired these volleys, since there were no other vessels in the vicinity.

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